



MontCAS
Montana Comprehensive Assessment System
February 2012

Important February and March 2012 Dates

*** AIM Dates**

February 8 – March 23, 2012	CRT-Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science. The first week of this window is intended for training and the preparation of materials.
February 29 – March 23, 2012	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science.
March 5, 2012 – April 16	Window to enter information on enrolled students who did not participate in the CRT or CRT-Alt. An email with password information will be sent to each System Test Coordinator the week of March 5. OPI mailed instructions to System Test Coordinators Dec. 30, 2011.
March 9, 2012	The online test security agreement authorization for System Test Coordinators and school principals/authorized representatives is activated: http://iServices.MeasuredProgress.org
* March 13, 2012	Test Window Count Date. Students enrolled in the school on this date make up the set of students to participate in the CRT assessment. Data should be reported in the Program Participation and Test Window Attendance Collections for these students.
* March 13-23, 2012	AIM* Test Window Attendance Collection. March 23 is the deadline. Data should reflect counts taken for March 13, 2012.
*March 26 to April 27, 2012	OPI staff works with District AIM specialists to cleanup and verify AIM data.
March 28, 2012	March 28 is the deadline for System Test Coordinators to ship via UPS all used CRT answer booklets, CRT used and unused materials and CRT-Alternate materials (each student's CRT-Alternate materials should be packed in an individual tyvek enveloped and returned with the CRT Test Booklets. See pages 16-17 of the Test Coordinator's Manual for packing and shipping instructions.

Online



- **MontCAS Overview** - <http://www.opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/>
 - Prerecorded webinar: <http://connect.opi.mt.gov/p5qnmii9y8/>
 - PDF handouts to accompany the webinar: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/assessment/12Feb-MontCAS-info-BW.pdf>
- **Global Instructions**--In black & white or color, this document may be posted in classrooms during testing.
 - Black & White: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/12Global-Test-Taking-Tips-BW.pdf>
 - Color: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/12Global-Test-Taking-Tips-color.pdf>
- **Testing in Progress**--In black & white or color, this document may be posted during testing.
 - Black & White: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/12Testing-in-Progress-Door-Sign-BW.pdf>
 - Color: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/CRT/12Testing-in-Progress-Door-Sign-color.pdf>
- **Students Who Move During the CRT and CRT-Alternate Testing Window**
http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/CRT/TA/12Students_Who_Move.pdf

CRT Test Development Events Spring and Summer 2012

You are invited to nominate yourself and/or a colleague to participate in CRT development sessions.

- All sessions are in Helena and training is included at each session.
- Lodging is provided for participants living 90 miles or more from Helena. In addition, mileage, meals not provided during the sessions, and substitute pay are reimbursed. Renewal units are also available. For the June meetings, honoraria are provided.
- We look forward to hearing from you soon. Nomination is online
<http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/Default.asp?ProgramID=11&submit1=Enter>

2011-2012 Test Development Events		
Date	Event	Participants
April 16-17, 2012	Item Review	Panels of six elementary, middle school, and high school teachers, including special education and LEP teachers each for the following contents and grades: Reading: Grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 10 Math: Grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, and 10 Science Grades 4, 8, and 10
April 18, 2012	Item Review	Panels of five each elementary, middle school, and high school teachers.
June 26-27, 2012	Field Test Statistical Review	Panels of: Reading, grades 3-6: four teachers* Reading, grades 7, 8, and 10: three teachers* Math, grades 3-6: four teachers* Math, grades 7, 8, and 10: three teachers* Science, grades 4 and 8: four teachers** Science, grade 10: three teachers * =1 for each grade **=2 for each grade



Online Classes Planned

Spring 2012

- **FAME FAME-CI: Formative Assessment for Montana Educators – Classroom Instruction**, includes a series of readings and online learning communities. Dr. Stevie Schmitz will facilitate the learning communities.
 - This class expands upon previous online *FAME* classes; however, there are no prerequisite classes.
 - The class text will be provided to Montana educators while supplies last.
 - The class begins the week of March 26. The registration deadline is March 23.
 - Graduate credit or renewal units will be available.
 - Please contact Alisia Landis (alandis2@mt.gov or 406-444-3511) for registration details.
 - Information will be available on the MontCAS Presents website by mid-March 2012: http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/MontCAS_Presents.html

Summer 2012

- **Standards-Based IEPs** was funded by a United States Department of Education General Supervision Enhancement Grant. The class includes a series of prerecorded online modules and facilitated online learning communities. Dr. Gail McGregor will facilitate the learning communities.
 - The modules are online at the *MontCAS Presents* site and can be viewed and used in numerous ways for professional development.
 - Graduate credit or renewal units will be available.
 - Information will be on the *MontCAS Presents* website by late April 2012: http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/MontCAS_Presents.html

- **Transition to the Montana Common Core Standards and Assessments**

Two online classes, one in Math and one in English Language Arts, will be offered.

- The modules are being prepared and will be online for the class but also will be available to be viewed and used in numerous ways for professional development on an individual, school, or district level.
- Graduate credit or renewal units will be available.
- More information will be on the *MontCAS Presents* website by late April. http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/MontCAS_Presents.html



Testing Contractor Contact Information

The CRT and the CRT-Alternate – Measured Progress, Inc.

Dan Verdick, Montana CRT Program Manager

verdick.dan@measuredprogress.org or 800-431-8901 x2220

Nancy Hebb, Montana CRT Program Assistant (slight last name change)

hebb.nancy@measuredprogress.org or 888-792-2741

Tim Greenlaw, Montana CRT-Alternate Program Manager

greenlaw.timothy@measuredprogress.org or

800-431-8901x2309

ACCESS and the W-APT, English Language Proficiency Assessments WIDA Consortium

help@wida.us or 1-866-276-7735

Wida@metritech.com or 1-800-747-4868

OPI Assessment Staff

Alisia Landis, Administrative Assistant

alandis2@mt.gov, 406-444-3511

Therese Tucker, Interim Assessment Specialist

ttucker@mt.gov

Judy Snow, State Assessment Director

jsnow@mt.gov, 406-444-3656 FAX: 406-444-0743